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MINUTES

—OF THE—

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Mississinewa Baptist Association,

(OLD SCHOOL,)

—IN SESSION WITH—

ROSS RUN CHURCH,

IN WABASH COUNTY, IND.,

September 7th, 8th and 9th, 1883.

MARION, INDIANA:
Chronicle Steam Job Print,
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MINUTES OF THE SESSION.

First Day's Session.

FRIDAY, September 7th.

Meeting opened by singing, and led in prayer by Elder W. R. Nowls, of Pt. Creek, and an introductory sermon preached by Elder J. W. Taylor, using as a text, First Thessalonians, 4th chapter, 13th and 14th verses. After which the letters from the several churches composing the Association were read from the stand, and the Statistical Report, hereinafter annexed, was gathered.

The Association adjourned for one hour for refreshments, after which she repaired to the stand and was called to order by the Moderator, and was opened by singing and led in prayer by Elder Waddle, of Ohio, and organized by choosing Elder W. L. Lines, Moderator, and T. W. Logan, Clerk. Being thus organized, proceeded as follows:

First. Messengers' names called and list corrected.

Second. Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum read.

Third. Correspondence called for and the following Associations responded:

POINT CREEK, by letter and messengers Elder W. R. Nowls, brethren D. H. Lemon, M. Shanks, R. W. Colwell, W. Shomaker, Joseph Northcut, Robert S. Lemon and W. T. Boswell.

WHITE WATER, by letter and messengers Elders William Sparks and Charles Reed.

MOUNT SALEM, by letter and messengers Elders David Fawley and Samuel Benjamin.

SCIOTO, by letter in the hand of her messenger, Elder George Waddle.

The above named messengers from corresponding Associations were cordially invited to seats in council and ghdly welcomed among us.

Fourth. Messengers who attended corresponding Associations report briefly concerning their visits, as follows: Elders John Buckles, William Buckles, Joseph Taylor and W. L. Lines.

Fifth. An opportunity for the reception of correspondence.

Sixth. An opportunity for the reception of churches into membership.

Seventh. Elder W. N. Buckles appointed to prepare a general corresponding letter and present it to-morrow.

Eighth. Circular letter called for presented and read by Brother J. V. Beavers, and referred to a committee, as follows: W. N. Buckles, L. E. Summers and J. V. Beavers.

Ninth. Elder Hiram Dale was chosen to prepare a circular letter for the next annual meeting.

Tenth. Brethren Amos Poston, J. Saunders and John Reed were appointed a committee on contributions.

Association adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow—Saturday.

Second Day's Session.

SATURDAY, September 8th—9 o'clock A. M.

First. Association met pursuant to adjournment. Called to order by the Moderator. Opened by singing and led in prayer by Elder David Fawley.

Second. Names of messengers called and list corrected.

Third. Elders W. R. Nowls, Charles Reed, George Waddle and David Fawley chosen to occupy the stand to-morrow—Sunday.

Fourth. Corresponding letter called for presented and read by W. N. Buckles. Letter accepted, and the following named persons appointed to bear the same to the corresponding Association:

POINT CREEK, Elders T. S. Lines, W. N. Buckles and Brother A. Osenbaugh.

MOUNT SALEM, Elders John Buckles, W. L. Lines and Brother L. E. Summers.

WHITE WATER, Elders F. T. Taylor, Hiram Dale and Brethren Thomas Beavers, J. M. Logan and William Bowman.

SCIOTO, Elder T. S. Lines and Brethren J. V. Beavers and Jesse Mason.

Fifth. Circular letter presented by committee. Letter received and committee released.

Sixth. Elder William Buckles chosen to preach an introductory sermon next year, with W. L. Lines his alternate.

Seventh. The Association agrees to meet with Pleasant View Church for her next Annual Meeting, which may be found by the directions in another article.

Eighth. Committee on contributions make the following report: Received in full, $68.50, distributed as follows: Correspondence, J. W. Taylor, $19.95 John Buckles, $6.00 T. S. Lines, $4.00 W. N. Buckles, 11.80 W. L. Lines, 8.76 Hiram Dale, 5.00 Minutes, 13.42

Ninth. Association adjourned to meet with Pleasant View Church, (located as follows: Six miles north of Lagro, on Wabash, St. L. and Pacific R. R., five miles south-east of New Madison on C. & G. R. R., and six miles east of Urbana on C., W. & M. R. R.,) on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1884, at ten o'clock A. M.

Third Day's Session.

SUNDAY, September 9th—10 A. M.

An unusually large congregation of people gathered together in the grove near the church house and took great interest in the meeting, and preserved the best of order during the day. Preaching from the stand by the following ministers: Elders George Waddle, of Ohio; W. R. Nowls, Charles Reed and David Fawley, of Indiana. The preaching was splendid and perfectly harmonious. This meeting will long be remembered.

W. L. LINES, Moderator. T. W. LOGAN, Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Mississinewa Regular Predestinarian Baptist Association in session with Ross Run Church, Wabash county, Indiana, September 7th, 8th and 9th, 1883; to the faithful in Christ Jesus, greeting:

Dearly Beloved Brethren:—In primitive times, they that loved the Lord spoke often one to another. We, as an Association, speak to each other once a year through the medium of a Circular Letter. We find from the reading of the letters from the churches composing our body, that we have many things for which to be thankful. For the Lord has not forgotten to be gracious to us in permitting us to live upon the earth and meet this the 45th time as an association, and transact all our business in peace, love and fear of the Lord. What a contrast between our situation and that of the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus in primitive times. We meet under our own vine and fig tree where none dare molest or make us afraid. "They met in deserts, in mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. They were stoned, were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword; they wandered in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted and tormented." Yet we believe the same God that was with them through all their afflictions and suffered them not to be tempted above that they were able to bear, is with us to-day, and is the God of our peace, for says Jesus, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." We believe this same God was with our fathers 45 years ago, prompting them by His spirit to organize the Mississinewa Association, an association which, by the grace of God, has stood for nearly half a century, and is now assembled with no visible marks of His displeasure resting upon it. Brethren, what manner of persons ought we to be realizing the Lord has been so merciful and gracious unto us? He has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. If one sin in ten thousand had been remembered against us, and we rewarded according to our own doings, instead of enjoying the glorious and God-given privilege of meeting and mingling with those of like precious faith, and hearing the proclamation of the glorious gospel of Christ, we might have been numbered with those who know not God, but worship the works of their own hands. In consequence of these mercies having been graciously bestowed upon us, dear brethren, Oh, come and let us go up to the house of the Lord and there pour out our souls in thanksgiving and praise to the giver of all good! "Let us sing psalms unto Him and talk of all His wondrous works." Let us quit complaining and faultfinding, and talk more of the goodness of God. Talk to poor sinners in whose hearts God hath shined, and given the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Tell them to walk round about Zion, observe well her bulwarks, tell of her towers, and behold that great and glorious tabernacle which shall never be taken down; and then let them come into her with songs

and rejoicing, they shall obtain joy and gladness. Sorrowing and sighing for a season will pass away, and it will be them as the springtime of life, for the singing of birds and the voice of the turtle will be heard in the land, and they will say as did Miriam of old: "Sing ye to the Lord for He hath triumphed gloriously; who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praise, doing wonders." Yes, dear soul, He hath done wonders, for He hath taken thee up out of the pit of sin wherein was corruption and pollution, and placed thy feet upon a solid rock; He found thee in thy sin and gore, clothed in filthy garments; He hath drawn thee from this sad state by the three-fold cord of his love. "He washed thee also with water and annointed thee with oil; He clothed thee with beautiful garments, even the garments of praise; He girded thee about also with fine linen." Dear soul, do you know that this fine linen, this glorious and spotless robe which He placed upon you to hide your guilt and shame, was washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb? and the water in which you were washed and made clean flows from the wound which your own sins pierced in His side? and that this Rock upon which you stand is none other than He who groaned, and bled and died, to save sinners?

"Oh, Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flow'd
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power."

Ye poor, sin-sick pilgrims, tired, faint and ready to perish, come to this Rock and find a sure retreat from every storm; here you may repose in the green pastures of God's everlasting love, and feed and feast upon the wines and fat things full of marrow from off the lees. Do not come trusting in your own worthiness, but come breathing this prayer: "Try me, O God, and search the ground of my heart; prove me and examine my thoughts. Show me the true state of my soul, and lead me in the way everlasting. Bring me out from every false way. Strip me of every covering that is not of Thy spirit." Forbid that the anchor of my hope should be cast, or the house of my dependence built, on any but Christ, the Rock of Ages. If this be thy wish and thy prayer, I am bold to say that thou art in the shadow of the Rock; and that God hath begun that good work in thee which shall be carried on to the day of Christ. What he hath begun in this life will be completed in the article of death, when thou art taken up to shine at God's right hand. Until then, look incessantly unto Jesus, for He alone is to be trusted in for repentance, for pardon, for everlasting life, and for the whole of our safety and happiness, from beginning to end. Remember that eternal salvation is of the Lord alone, and does not depend upon any conditions which you can perform, call them what you may, whether terms, causes, supplement or *means*; the matter comes to the same point, and Christ is not a Saviour, if these or any other views of human obedience be true.

"It's Christ that died, oh, love divine,
Here mercy, truth and justice shine;
God reconciled, and sinners bought
With Jesus' blood: how sweet the thought!"

The Lord enables you to bring your sins and your duties, and yourselves and your all unto Him. May He wash us in His own blood, clothe us in His own righteousness, and seal us a holy people to Himself by His spirit. While this shall be all our plea and all our song—Lord, I am not worthy to come under Thy roof, nor that Thou shouldest come under mine; but the Lamb that was slain is worthy; unto whom be blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, for ever and ever. Amen.

J. V. Beavers.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Mississinewa Old School Baptist Association now in session with the Ross Run Church, in Wabash county, Indiana, September 7th, 8th and 9th, 1883.

Very Dear Brethren:—Through the many things seen and unseen, we are once more brought to realize that the tender mercies of our Heavenly Father still hovers over us, in that we are again permitted to come together from different parts and from different Associations of our faith and order and renew our acquaintance, and feel that thrill of love flow from the heart that none but the children of God do or can feel, and are rejoiced to hear your ministers who come to us laden with the rich things of the Kingdom. Very dear brethren, may the God of all grace continue to bless us with that spirit of love that banisheth all strife and confusion and discord that so often mars the peace of Zion. Brethren, we still desire your correspondence. Farewell.

VISITATION MEETINGS.

Mississinewa Church on Saturday before the first Sunday in June, 1884. Elders Erasmus Thomas and Joseph Witham.

Ross Run on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in May, 1884. Elder William Buckles.

Wabash on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in January, 1884. Elder W. R. Nowls.

Sugar Grove on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in January, 1884. Elder William Buckles.

Pleasant View on Friday night before the third Sunday in December, 1883. Elder T. S. Lines.

Antioch on Saturday before the second Sunday in November, 1883. Elder John Buckles to attend.

Also, on Saturday before the second Sunday in June, 1884. Elder William Buckles to attend.

Time and Place of Meeting of Corresponding Associations.

POINT CREEK meets with Salem Church in Carroll county, Indiana, on Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1884. Those coming by railroad will leave the L. C. & S. W. R. R. at Center, and the C. & L. R. R. at Radnor.

MOUNT SALEM with Shilo Church in Wells county, Indiana. Those coming by railroad will be met at Ossron or Sheldon on the Ft. Wayne, Muncie & Connersville R. R. on Thursday evening.

WHITE WATER with Second William's Creek Church, seven miles north-west of Connersville, Indiana, two miles north of Longwood Station on the C. H. & I. R. R., commencing on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1884, at 10 o'clock P. M.

SCIOTO with Turkey Run Church in Fairfield county, Ohio, on Friday before third Sunday in August, 1884, at 10 o'clock. Persons by railroad go to Amanda on M. V. R. R., and inquire for Thos. Barr or John Blue.

P. O. Address of Church Clerks and Ministers Present.

CLERKS.

Muncie Church—B. Powers, Muncie, Delaware county, Ind.
Mississinewa—B. F. Current, Dunkirk, Jay county, Ind.
Antioch—John M. Logan, LaFontaine, Wabash county, Ind.
Lebanon—J. M. Reed, Mt. Summit, Henry county, Ind.
Pleasant View—W. H. Stoops, Pleasant View, Wabash Co., Ind
Ross Run—L. Dale, Lincolnville, Wabash county, Ind.
Rush Creek—Albert Smeleer, Banquo, Huntington Co., Ind.
Wabash—L. E. Summers, Markle, Huntington county, Ind.
Sugar Grove—F. T. Jenkins, South Whitley, Whitley Co., Ind.

MINISTERS.

Samuel H. Benjaman, Warsaw, Indiana.
W. R. Nowls, Surrey, Jasper county, Indiana.
David Fawley, Atwood, Indiana.
Charles M. Reed, Connersville, Indiana.
William Sparks, Connersville, Indiana.
George Waddle, Sabina, Clinton county, Ohio.
T. S. Lines, New Castle, Indiana.
John Buckles, Dunkirk, Indiana.
F. T. Taylor, LaFontaine, Indiana.
William Buckles, Dunkirk, Indiana.
Hiram Dale, Dora, Indiana.
Peter Pimyotomah, Peru, Indiana.
Joseph W. Taylor, Pleasant View, Indiana.
W. L. Lines, LaFontaine, Indiana.
J. A. Neal, Muncie, Indiana.
Rufus R. Reed, Mt. Summit, Indiana.
J. T. Ball, Muncie, Indiana.
Jesse Mason, Dunkirk, Indiana.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

CHURCH.	MESSENGERS.	CLERK.	PASTOR.	Time of Meeting.	Receiv'd Baptism	Received Rebat'n	Received Letter.	Dismissed Letter.	Suspended.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Tot'l Memb'rsh'p
Muncie	Elder J. A. Neal: Brethren D. P. Howell, J. T. Hall	R. Tyner	J. A. Neal	3				2				18
Musksahowa	Elders J. Buckles, W. N. Buckles: Brethren A. Osenbuch, J. Mason, J. Saunders.	B. F. Current.	John Buckles. W. N. Buckles	1	1			1		1		54
Antioch	Elder F. T. Taylor, W. L. Lines: Brethren J. M. Logan, A. F. Poston, Benj. Sharp, W. Sailors, P. P. Sailors, O. P. Logan.	J. M. Logan.	F. T. Taylor. W. L. Lines.	2	1				18	5	2	100
Lebanon	Elder T. S. Lines: Brethren W. G. Bowman, T. H. Beavers, Mellot Veach, J. M. Reed, J. V. Beavers.	J. M. Reed.	T. S. Lines. John Buckles.	2	15			2			2	72
Pleasant View	Brethren Alvah Taylor, R. Stoops, G. W. Richards, R. Tyner.	W. H. Stoops.	J. W. Taylor.	3					1			40
Ross Run	Elder H. Dale: Brethren A. Kelsey, R. Jackson, W. Line, L. Dale.	L. Dale.	Hiram Dale.	4			4	1			1	68
Rush Creek	Brethren Anna Harlan, J. M. Case, T. W. Logan	A. Smelcer.	W. L. Lines.	1	5	1						33
Wabash	Brethren L. E. Summers, Geo. Reher, J. R. Hite.	L. E. Summers.	R. R. Reed.	4								24
Sugar Grove	Brethren Martin Pence, I. Jenkins, M. Jenkins.	B. F. Jenkins.	J. W. Taylor.	4	1				2			13
Concord	Elder Peter Pimyotomah. No letter.											
Total.				23	1	4	6	18	9	5	422	

OBITUARY NOTICES; or a List of Deceased Members.

Brother CHARLES BANISTER departed this life within a moment's warning—being killed by railroad train on the 14th of June.

Sister MARY E. LOGAN fell asleep (after a long and painful sickness) on the 20th of July, 1883. She had been a member of Antioch Church for about 25 years.

Brother JOHN REED departed this life March 16th, being 81 years, 7 months and 16 days old. Brother Reed was a Father in Israel, a kind and devoted Christian.

Sister SARAH MELLOTT's spirit took its flight August 21st, and left the tenement of clay, and we believe is now with the spirits of the just.

Brother DREWY TYNER departed this life December 17th, 1883, who was quite old and had been a member of the Baptist Church for many years.

One by one the bonds are severed
Binding hearts together here;
One by one new ties are added
In that land that knows no tear.

KMAN
Y INC.
MAR 90
N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA 46962